



NEW CLOCK-TOWER, LONDON BRIDGE.

MR. CHRISTOPHER EDMONDS, ARCHT.

PROPOSED CLOCK TOWER IN
SOUTHWARK.

MR. BENNETT, of Blackheath, having liberally offered to place the large clock contributed by him to the Great Exhibition in 1851, at the disposal of the Commissioners for Lighting the West Division of Southwark, they have determined on erecting a tower in which to place it on the spot where the lamp pedestal now stands, at the foot of London-bridge, at the corner of Duke-street, and the entrance to the railway stations. A design was made by Mr. Christopher Edmonds, the surveyor to the Board, and of this we give an engraving. It will be quadrangular, nearly 60 feet high, and will be constructed of cast iron. The four dials, each 6 feet in diameter, will be of white glass, strongly illuminated at night, and the windows will be filled with purple flashed glass. The cost is calculated at 700*l.* half of which is to be paid out of the rates, and the other half is to be raised by subscription.

It is a very happy idea, and we shall be glad to see the example followed. The parish ought to feel much obliged to Mr. Bennett.

It must not be considered, either in this or other cases, that because we publish the design, we necessarily approve it. We seek to make our readers acquainted with such of the new structures rising about us, or proposed for erection, as are likely to interest them on one ground or another, and when, to enable us to do this, we are obliged to apply to their designers for the materials, condemnatory criticism would be ungracious, and we give the views simply as facts, without comment. In the present instance we have no hesitation in saying that the design is not satisfactory. Looked at without reference to the material of which it is to be composed, the form of the buttresses at the angles is not good, and windows in such a position are unmeaning and false: but the radical error is this, that the proposed tower is a reproduction of a stone building in iron, and is for that reason wholly indefensible. The two materials require entirely different treatment, and we shall have done good service if Mr. Edmonds, taking these remarks in the spirit in which they are offered, be led to reconsider the matter, and produce a design having proper reference to this undeniable proposition.

THE LATE MR. JAMES SAVAGE,
ARCHITECT.*

MR. JAMES SAVAGE was born at Hackney, Middlesex, April 10th, 1779. After receiving his education at a private school, he was articled to Mr. Alexander, the architect of the London Docks, under whom he acted for several years as clerk of the works. In 1799 he was admitted a student of the Royal Academy. In the year 1800 his design for improving the city of Aberdeen obtained the second premium of 150*l.* he being then under twenty-two years of age. In 1805 he was the successful competitor among the numerous architects who submitted designs for rebuilding Ormond-bridge over the Liffey, Dublin; and in 1808 he furnished the design for Richmond-bridge, over the same river, which was carried into effect. In 1806 he presented to the London Architectural Society, of which he was a member, an essay on bridge building, which they published in the second volume of their "Transactions." In 1815 his design sent in competition for a stone bridge of three arches over the Ouse, at Tensford, in Bedfordshire, with the adjacent road and flood bridges, was selected by the magistrates of the county. In 1819 his plans for building St. Luke's Church, Chelsea, were selected, from among above forty designs. This church is an imitation of the Gothic churches of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and is noticeable for the ceiling of the nave, which consists of a groined vault of solid stone, whose lateral pressure is resisted by flying buttresses, also of solid stone. In the original design for this church the tower was terminated with an open spire, similar in principle to that of Sir Christopher Wren's church, St. Dunstan's in

* From a communication to the Royal Institute of British Architects, by Messrs. H. and C. W. Savage.